GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:101
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2003
AYODHYA ISSUE
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;NIVEDITA MANE;PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently made fresh efforts to meditate between the leaders of Hindu and Muslim communities to arrive at some mutally acceptable formula for ending the Ayodhya temple impasse;

(b) whether efforts in that direction are still continuing;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any meeting has been held recently between Prime Minister and Shankaracharya of Kanchi on the issue;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the outcome of the discussion held in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERS(PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK)

(a): No, Sir.

(b) & (c): The Government is firmly of the view that the Ayodhya dispute can be resolved, either through mutual agreement among all the parties concerned or through the verdict of the Judiciary. Therefore pending judicial verdict, the Government will continue to facilitate all attempts to find an amicable and speedy resolution of the dispute.

(d), (e) & (f): Shankaracharya of Kanchi met the Prime Minister on Tuesday, the 4th February, 2003 and discussed issues relating to civic amenities for the pilgrims visiting Ayodhya and urban development of Ayodhya town.